EMPLOYER STATUS DETERMINATION Shawnee Terminal Railway Company

This is the determination of the Railroad Retirement Board concerning the status of Shawnee Terminal Railway Company (STR), as an employer under the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. § 231 $\underline{\text{et}}$ $\underline{\text{seq}}$.) and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. §351 $\underline{\text{et}}$ $\underline{\text{seq}}$.).

Information regarding STR was provided by Daniel A. LaKemper, General Counsel, STR. According to Mr. LaKemper STR began doing business on November 19, 1996. Guy L. Brenkman is the chief executive officer of STR. As of December 2, 1996, STR reports that it had one employee.

In Surface Transportation Board Finance Docket 33127, STR filed a notice of exemption to acquire and operate approximately seven miles of rail line. It provides common carrier freight service to customers in and around Cairo, Illinois, and interchanges with the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

The evidence of record establishes that STR is a carrier operating in interstate commerce. Accordingly, it is determined that STR is an employer within the meaning of section 1(a)(1)(i) of the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. § 231(a)(1)(i)) and the corresponding provision of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act as of November 19, 1996, the date on which it commenced operations.

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